



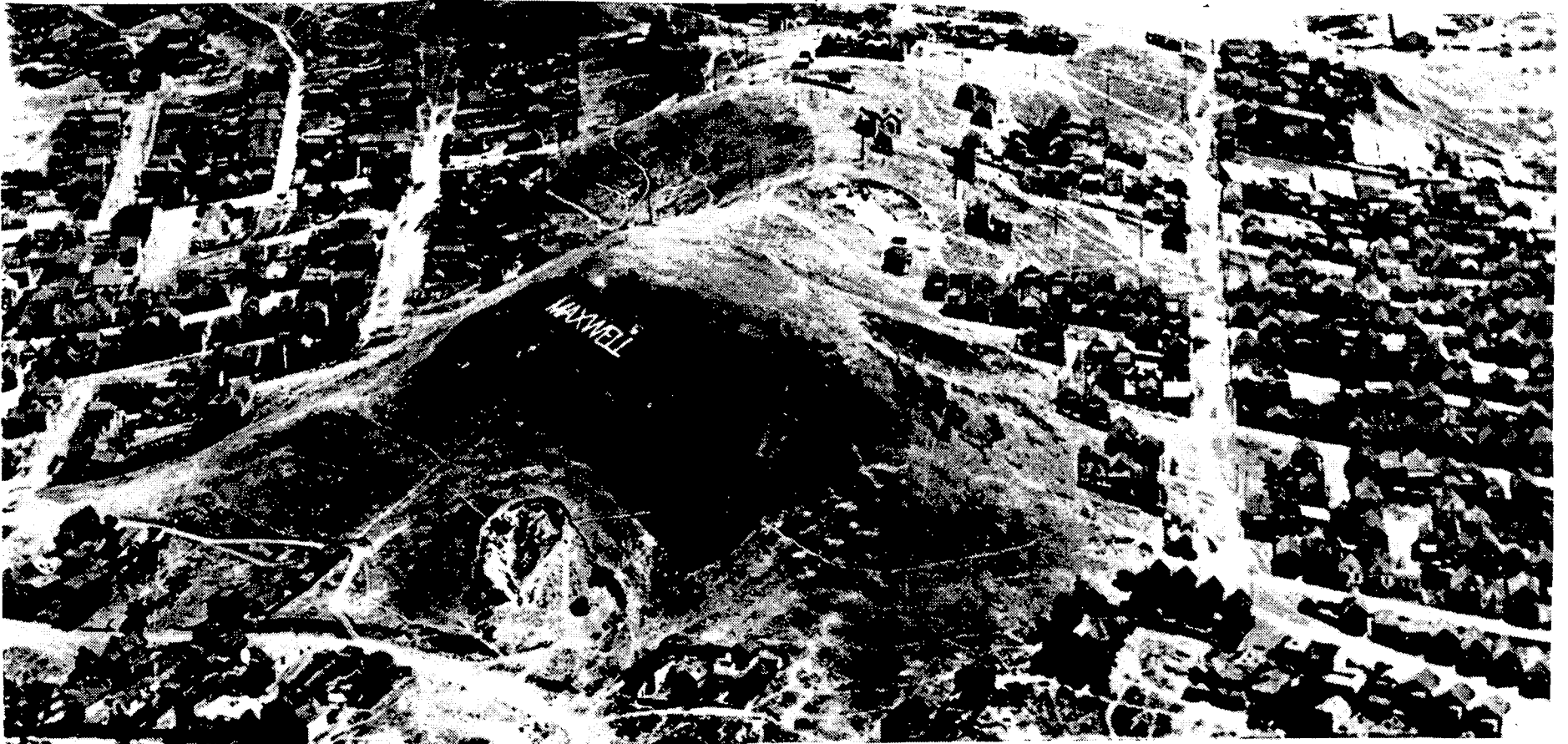
BERNAL JOURNAL

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING BERNAL HEIGHTS AND SAN FRANCISCO

June-July

Vol. 16 No. 3

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This Aerial View of Bernal Heights, taken with Mission Street at the bottom, was shot from an airplane sometime before 1926 when a house at 14 Montezuma, absent here, was built. Can you guess the date? Or what Maxwell stands for? (Courtesy Richard Larson).

Bottles Broken! Cans Crushed!

Recycling Center Opens

That was not an earthquake you felt early Saturday morning, May 26th. That was the sound of your neighbors crushing cans and crying congratulations, as the Bernal Recycling Center finally opened for business at the Farmer's Market on Alemany Blvd.

Organizing members of the Center announce with great pride that you may now bring your old newspapers, tin cans, glass bottles and jars, and aluminum every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Why recycle? Too much of what we buy becomes garbage too fast . . . bottles, jars, cans, newspapers. Instead of wasting the materials we use daily, let's recycle. Let's re-use materials, not discard them. We need to cut down on the use of natural resources as well as eliminate air and land pollution. Recycling our own things is a good step towards keeping the earth alive. An added bonus . . . recycling will cut our garbage disposal costs!!!

The Bernal Recycling Center will accept the following materials:

GLASS

- ☐ Bottles and Jars
- ☐ Remove tops, rinse clean, neck rings and labels O. K

ALUMINUM

- ☐ Soda and Beer Cans, Foil, TV Dinner Trays and Pie Plates.
- ☐ Aluminum Cans have pop tops and concave bottoms and are very light weight.
- ☐ Rinse, Clean and Crush.

"TIN" CANS

- ☐ Soup, Vegetable, Pet Food Cans, Etc.
- ☐ Tin Cans are actually steel with a tin lining to prevent rust. They have side seams and a flat top and bottom.
- ☐ Rinse clean & remove labels. Open opposite end and flatten.

NEWSPAPERS

- ☐ No Magazines, Phone Books, Scrap Paper, Shiny Inserts or Bags.
- ☐ Stack. Do not tie with string.

The Bernal Recycling Center is an all-volunteer, non-profit group. All proceeds will be distributed to community and environmental projects.

Volunteers are needed. Come by on Saturdays or call 282-5839 weekday afternoons at 2 to 5 p.m. LET'S RECYCLE!!!

Community Center!

By Ann Kyle Nolan

By the time you read this article the Bernal Heights Community Center organizing committee, an ad hoc group of residents and neighborhood organizations, will have submitted a proposal to the Mayor's Office of Community Development for funds from its' 1980 budget to purchase two buildings to be used as Community Centers.

This proposal was submitted under the sponsorship of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation and represents years of work by many Hill residents, both in the present committee which focused on building acquisition and proposal writing, and the past committee, which working through the B.H.A. surveyed the community, identifying and prioritizing needs and services and establishing a basic outline for future governance and operation of the new Center.

The concept of the proposal is as follows

• Bernal Heights needs a building in order to stimulate social services. (In other neighborhoods, social service providers come together and write proposals. Bernal Heights does not have these existing services, and need a building to get them here.)

(Continued on Page 6)

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To:

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BERNAL JOURNAL

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING
BERNAL HEIGHTS AND SAN FRANCISCO

The **Bernal Journal** is an open forum of the community sponsored by the Bernal Fund. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with neighborhood news, ideas, issues, and events. Articles with by-lines express the views of the individual and not necessarily those of the **Journal** or its editors.

The next meeting of the **Bernal Journal** is Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 8 pm at 62 Winfield Street. Anybody with an idea or interest is invited. **Deadline for ads, classifieds, announcements, cartoons, pictures and articles is August 10.**

EDITORS: Steve Chapple and Ann Kyle

STAFF REPORTER: Joanne Molloy

COMMUNITY REPORTER: R. J. Dutra

TREASURER: Jerry Schwartz

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Joe Marino

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Joe Marino, Florence Monzasch, Fred Strickland

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LETTERS

(Editor's Note . . . The following is in response to letters from Barbara Bagot, Jessie Bowen and Linda Canaga in the April issue . . .

Dear Editors:

I would be delighted to sell any home for a price you or your readers think fair, provided you persuade the owner to agree to your price.

To respond to your accusations regarding speculation and neighborhood dislocation, I challenge anyone to name one piece of property which I own or provide the name of any person I have "chased out" of Bernal Heights. (For those of your readers who do not know, all records relating to property ownership are public and are housed in the County Recorder's office.)

I do not and never have engaged in the construction of any type of housing whatsoever. I have not been employed to erect or to sell mass expensive or inexpensive housing. As a matter of fact, the box-like expensive homes of which you speak, I personally do not care for either.

The charm of Bernal Height's varied architectural styles, the careful preservation of its

editor's notes

As you may have guessed, this is one of our ad-packed, eight-page fatties. Since not every advertiser pays on time, periodically we need to tighten our belt to loosen our cash flow. Our apologies to those whose stories had to be shortened or saved until next issue, especially to "Clay Art," Jeanne Angier; Phil Johnson and Greg Catani; Barbara Pitschel; and to Andrea Snow, Bernal's clown who is appearing with the Picket Family Circus at Fort Mason, July 4th. There seems to be more over-the-transom hot journalistic talent on Bernal Heights than there are crooked streets. Remember: Bret Harte, Franz Kafka, and Virginia Woolf all got their first story in print inside the pages of the **Journal**, so you could be next. Send 'em in!

Last issue's letters touched on a controversy as old as the hill but hotter now than ever: Housing. The **Journal** believes in free and easy expression of opinion, and has been printing letters and articles from all sides. To the extent that they can be, we hope that these matters may be resolved by neighbors in a neighborly fashion.

GROWLS FROM THE BERNAL BEAR



houses are only two of the many reasons that draw prospective homeowners to your neighborhood. My job and profession is to sell a house, for someone who wishes to sell their home, to someone who wishes to buy a home. I do not create the selling price. The seller sets the price, usually based on the fair market value of the property. It has been my experience that an owner will sometimes try to get more than that.

Buyers are willing to pay fair market value for homes in the neighborhood because they know only too well what the *New York Times* printed, April 22, 1979 "... housing has gone up in value over the past five years at a rate of 11% annum. . ." Owning a house is one of the best possible hedges against inflation a person could possibly have. Fixed mortgage payments in relation to inflation (which the *New York Times* fixed at 9% but in reality is more like 12-13%) actually decrease in dollar value, while the value of the house increases.

I assure you and your readers that I am in no way responsible for the high real estate values in Bernal Heights. Other than double digit inflation the main reason for high prices

BOB COVINGTON
1940-1979

(Editors' Note . . . District 9 activist Bob Covington died last month in Seattle. He ran a high second in the 1978 race for district supervisor. The friends who worked with him in that campaign would like him to be remembered for what he stood for in that election. Here is part of his platform.)

I am against the present racist government of South Africa.

I am for the Self-Determination of 3rd World Peoples at home and abroad.

I am for the greater distribution of goods and services for POOR who merely survive in our society - NOT through paternalistic and token responses, but through meaningful and relevant change.

I am for the equal rights of women to full participation in our society. I believe that progressive people must continue to work to terminate male chauvinism which is a manifestation of racism and exploitation at its worst.

I am for community control of government and I am for the voices of community people being heard in the chambers of city hall.

I am for anti-discrimination legislation in regard to anything which discriminates against gays, women and 3rd World People.

I am for a liveable world and that includes clean air and sane urban development.

I am for setting a ceiling price on the amount of money seniors can be charged for the basics of life, e.g., Housing, Food and Medicine.

I am for a thorough investigation of the jails and the judicial system by the people of the community.

I am not anti-labor, nor am I anti-business. I am pro-People, and believe that both labor and business should be working to develop meaningful programs for jobs in the city for all.

I support the just struggle of the tenants of the International Hotel just as I support the housing struggles in the South of Market, Western Addition, Hunters Point, The Haight, Sunset, Bernal Heights, and throughout the City where profiteers are attempting to drive the working class people out of San Francisco.

PEOPLE WITH COVINGTON
October, 1977

Memorial Services, June
New Liberation Church, Divisadero St.

in this neighborhood is your responsibility. You work successfully at making Bernal Heights a most attractive neighborhood and a viable community. Naturally, homes in good neighborhoods are more valuable than those in grungy areas.

MICHAEL D. SARGENT

Dear Editors:

I have met with members of the Department of Public Works staff and they have assured me that Bernal Heights/Glen Park will **not** have mechanical street cleaning this year. They will hold two more public hearings on this matter and we want to know what specifically you do not like about the proposal.

Please call my office at 558-2943 and let my staff know your feelings on this matter.

LEE S. DOLSON

Letters are not censored. The **Journal** reserves the right to edit for space. Opinions and views expressed by letter-writers are solely their own and do not in any way necessarily express those of the **Journal** or its editors.

IS SPECULATION A THREAT TO HILL HOUSING ?

By Roger Borgenicht

Over the last two to three years we've all seen the prices of houses and rents more than double here on Bernal Heights. Although inflation in the economy in general and the tight supply of housing in San Francisco play their part, housing speculation has been a major fueler of these skyrocketing rents and of houses leaping out of the reach of low and moderate income people. As neighbors, both renters and homeowners, are forced out by rising costs, the neighborhood is the loser. Housing speculation is threatening to destroy Bernal Heights as an ethnically integrated, low/moderate income neighborhood.

Speculation in the housing market, simply put, is using housing as an investment commodity. The primary interest of a speculator is not to own a house to live in but is to use that building as an investment for a quick and easy profit.

In the new housing market, speculation consists of speculative developers building housing without a committed buyer or sales price. The speculator will sell for whatever he/she can get to maximize profit. In some cases the speculation starts even before the housing is built by reselling a "place in line" in a new development.

Speculation in the existing housing market involves the buying of houses and holding them for a short time with the expectation of reselling them for a quick and large profit. Little work is usually done on a speculated building and an emphasis is usually done on a cosmetic improvement rather than on a structural, mechanical and architectural improvement that relates to life threatening hazards and to the liveability of the houses.

Housing speculation raises housing costs to both renters and homeowners. Speculation hurts neighboring homeowners by increasing monthly costs such as taxes and insurance by raising the assessments of adjoining properties. On rental housing the speculator raises rents to cover increased mortgage costs and to increase the cash flow from the building to make it more attractive to other investors.

Some realtors have played a role in super heating an already inflated housing market. They have encouraged sales and have showed people how to "move up" in the housing market by using real estate for short term investment. With hawk eyes on the obituaries each week some realtors have visited homes three to four days after the death of a husband or wife in

hopes of getting a new listing. Some have suggested that old age homes would provide more appropriate housing.

There are no easy answers to the current housing crisis. Here on Bernal Heights we've had to deal with forced rehabilitation programs that have hurt low and moderate income households more than they've helped. We're faced with expensive, box-like speculative new housing on unsafe streets with inadequate utilities. And we're faced with people who see housing as a commodity for investment rather than as one of the basic necessities of life.

There are no quick or magical solutions to the housing crisis either. Although the supply of housing alone is not the problem, the production of housing that will be affordable to low and moderate income people is of prime importance. Voluntary rehabilitation programs that concentrate on life threatening hazards and do not require unnecessary improvements are needed. Stopping speculation in both the new and existing housing market and stabilizing rents will be key however to preserving and improving ethnically integrated, low and moderate income neighborhoods such as ours.



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Our democratically structured office provides a setting where all associates share in the decision making and management of the office. We are more than just a sales force, more than just a group of listing agents - we work together in an atmosphere of unity.

Appointments for a personal interview with our associates may be arranged by phoning our office.

Joel Budgman Ken Hoegger

"FOR OUR COMMUNITY... IN OUR COMMUNITY"

MECHANICAL STREET SWEEPING

PARK CUTS

MAN vs. MACHINE

By R. J. Dutra

Our community reporter set out the evening of May 2nd to get the scoop on Public Works (DPW) proposed mechanical street sweeping system for Bernal Heights and Glen Park. It was a difficult hearing to locate.

Three paths lead to the Glen Park Recreation Center. The one leading to the DPW hearing was marked by a blown down sign. The Center itself has several entrances. That evening, all but one was locked.

To reach the unlocked entrance I had to interrupt a softball game. Inside, youths were playing pool and basketball. The door to the DPW hearing was locked.

Loud knocking got me inside where some 40 people were listening to DPW explain that the Board of Supervisors have decided to replace street sweepers. Eventually, all districts are to be swept by machine which will require automobiles to vacate one side of the street for several hours one day a week. Violators receive a 20 dollar ticket.

The City believes mechanical street sweeping will save money. It is true that all the people actually pushing brooms earn only CETA salaries. The high-paid "sweepers" everyone talks about work in other sections of DPW's Street Cleaning and Trees Division.

People at the hearing asked *where* are they to move their cars, "Potrero Hill?" Others questioned the machines' abilities to maneuver on narrow, zig-zagging hillside streets. Still others wanted proof that the machines are actually cheaper and more efficient than people. DPW's answers were not very specific.

Several Glen Park residents suggested a mixed system; machines on wide, commercial streets, and people with brooms on residential streets.

DPW emphasized that they are enforcing the Supervisors' decision. I stood up to say, "I don't think Bernal will abide."

What the Supervisors do they can undo. Supervisor Lee Dolson has already approached DPW about a possible mixed system. He has also inquired about postponing enforcement in Bernal and Glen Park until sometime in 1980.

Residents are encouraged to call the Supervisor's Office (558-2943) to say if they favor or oppose the system.



Winning Poster

The Bernal Journal announces with great pride the winner of the BERNAL RECYCLING CENTER Design-a-Poster-Contest. First Prize and Blue Ribbon Award is a six-pack of Perrier Water and a big thank you from the Recycling Committee.

ROGER MOCENIGO of Montezuma St., a recently arrived neighbor and an obviously artistic one, submitted the above winning poster.

Every-one loved it and wants to use it to advertise the center. Thanks Roger . . . and come recycle those empties Saturday Morning.

Mayor's Emergency?

Financial film-flams characterized Mayor Dianne Feinstein's proclamation of yet another Proposition 13 "emergency" on Monday, May 21st.

The "emergency" stems from the fact that the City must approve its budget before knowing exactly how much "bail-out— funds it is to receive from the State. The City also doesn't know how much its own surplus will be, how much the Federal Government will give it, or the City's present financial balance; but these are not cause for an "emergency."

A big loser in this "emergency" is the 1979 Open Space Acquisition and Renovation Program, which provides funds to acquire new and renovate old neighborhood parks.

Two-thirds of this city-wide, voter approved program were transferred to the General Fund due to the "emergency." The Mayor and Supervisors can restore the program when the "emergency" is over.

Avoid Herbicides

This summer while working in your yard or garden, be extremely careful using chemical herbicides or weed-killers containing Silvex or 245-T, a highly toxic poison which is dangerous to you and your family. This chemical contains dioxin which is being linked to cancer, birth defects, and miscarriages all over the world.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The ban now in force is temporary, so write the EPA urging them to make it permanent. Dow Chemical is a major producer of dioxin and they are trying to get the ban lifted. If you find any 245-T products being sold, demand they be removed and call the EPA or KRON-TV if they are not. Finally, check your own home for old cans of herbicides with 245-T and call the EPA at 556-0217 for the safest way to dispose of them.

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BERNAL HOUSING PLANS

By R. J. Dutra

A team of Bernal residents, headed by the directors and staff of the Community Foundation (BHCF), are working on a potential hillwide, five-year housing and development program.

The program would be a community initiated effort to provide new and rehabilitated housing and development for the low and moderate income people living on Bernal. The comprehensive program has several parts:

- **LOT ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT** — acquire lots at today's prices for the development of low to moderate priced houses. Design, build and market these houses in an affordable price range.

- **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS** — secure available funding to bring the area's sub-standard streets and utilities up to City standards without passing this cost onto property owners.

- **REHABILITATION LOANS** — provide a local voluntary program for low-interest, long-term home repair loans to include assistance with blueprints, permits, loan processing and contracting, and which will emphasize the repair of potentially hazardous conditions.

- **ACQUISITION & REHABILITATION** — acquire and rehabilitate housing which would be made available to low and moderate-income residents.

- **COMMUNITY CENTERS** — provide conveniently located community centers which would offer a variety of direct services, plus referral to other public service agencies.

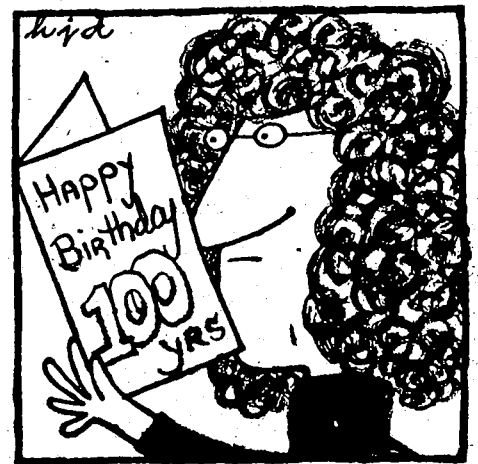
A funding request to finance this program is being submitted to the Mayor's Office of Community Development (OCD). The City will receive approximately 30 million dollars in OCD funds from the Federal Government in 1980.

BHCF will request around a million dollars from these OCD funds to continue and expand its housing and development programs. It received 150 thousand dollars for its 1979 program, although the funds have still not arrived from Washington, D.C.

The funding request must be approved by the Mayor's Office, the Board of Supervisors, and the Federal Government.

Most of this summer will be spent convincing the City to approve the program. A hillwide BHCF board of directors and some staff will be necessary to implement the program.

It is an ambitious neighborhood project, but in view of the City's housing crisis, a project whose time has come. Any resident interested in aiding this effort can contact the Community Foundation at 826-3959, or stop by mornings at their office at 149 Prospect.



100th Birthday

JUNE-JULY LIBRARY PROGRAMS

By Ruth Maginnis, Bernal Heights Library

June 7, 1979 is San Francisco Public Library's 100th birthday; a gala Birthday Party will be held in Civic Center that day at noon. Bernal Heights Library will celebrate the centennial and the International Year of the Child with an exhibit of the art of children of Bernal Heights from June 3 through July 27; all children under 14 are invited to bring one or two pieces (paintings, drawings, sculpture, pottery, crafts, etc.) to the library after May 27, labeled with the artist's name and address. The community is invited to meet the artists at the library on June 6 from 4-6.

The library will be showing THE RED BALLOON, a classic movie "for children of all ages" at 10:30, 2:00, and 4:00 on June 5 with two other short films, also set in Paris.

On June 20, the library will sponsor a workshop on How To Use Small Claims Court at 7:00 p.m. On July 11, at 7:00, a slide show on weaving will be at the library.

Preschool story hours will be held on June 6, 7, 13, 14 and July 25th and 26th (Wednesdays at 7:00 and Thursdays at 1:30).

The library's meeting room is available to community groups for any meetings which can be held while library staff is on duty; call Ruth Maginnis at 285-1744 for meeting room scheduling.

NEW MURAL COMPLETED AT JUNIPERO SIERRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A large outdoor mural depicting many past and present aspects of California life, has been completed by students at Junipero Sierra Elementary School, with the help of muralist Gail Gladstone.

The mural portrays California Indians, Spanish Mission days, the gold rush, early animals, and today's modern city.

It was sponsored by the Neighborhood Improvement Plan (NIP). The school is located at 625 Holly Park Circle.

ADIOS

GOOD-BY TO A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Two issues ago, the JOURNAL carried a photo of Shields Grocery store since before the fire in '06. Well, this fine business closed it's doors for the last time in April. Lenny Shields is retiring. Neighbors all around will miss him. We all wish him well and hope he enjoys his new-found free time.



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THE UNASSUMING BLUE EYED GRASS

BERNAL HEIGHTS NATURAL HISTORY

By Barbara Pitschel

As I write this in mid-May, I have to consider the possibility that those flowers which are so abundant now could be decimated by "controlled" or "accidental" fires before this *Journal* is printed. Let us hope not. It would be interesting to observe the patterns of uninterrupted growth through an entire summer.

Despite the abundance and variety of Bernal wildflowers, I have always felt a small regret that no Iris species grow on our hill. Although the Iris Family (*IRIDACEAE*) includes such famed garden denizens as the crocus, gladiolus, and freesia, only two genera are native to California: Iris itself, and *Sisyrinchium*. A species of the latter makes its home on our hill.

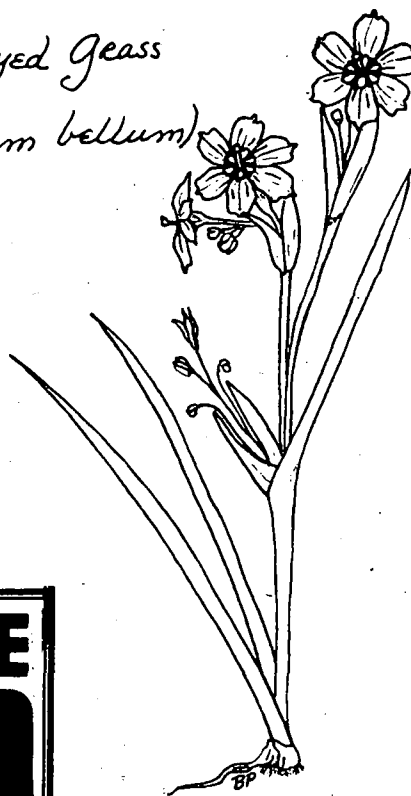
Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*) is as unassuming as the Iris is majestic. On our hill the plants rarely grow to heights of more than six or eight inches. Stems end in three to seven blue-purple flowers which emerge from between two spathes or bracts. The star-like, six-petaled flowers are only about 3/4" in diameter. The notched petals are darkly veined and terminate in a small tooth. The center of the flower (or "pupil" of the "eye") is yellow.

At this writing, Blue-eyed Grass plants can be found on many parts of the hill, but the greatest concentrations are along the middle path on the northwest side, and along the upper edge of the road, also on the north side.

I have often wondered whether or not Iris itself ever grew on our hill. Growing conditions would appear to have been favorable, according to *A Flora of San Francisco, California* by John Thomas Howell, Peter H. Raven, and Peter Rubtzoff.

If anyone has any leads toward confirming or refuting the existence of native Iris on Bernal Heights at any time in the past, please let me know!

Blue-eyed Grass
(*Sisyrinchium bellum*)



(Continued from Page 1)

• Bernal Heights *does* have a network of highly motivated individual volunteers, organizations, and block clubs which would prosper greatly given a building with meeting space and office space and the improved communication that would ultimately follow. This network or coalition, would be mutually supportive in stimulating services for Bernal as well as fundraising and acquiring staff for the Center.

• It is appropriate in Bernal Heights for a Community Center to evolve in three stages. They are: a) rent building with an option to buy and begin immediately to stimulate services, as well as house neighborhood organizations and those groups who now use the temporary centers. b) in March 1980, when the funds are released, buy the buildings and begin rehabilitation to suit services. Continue to stimulate services. c) Service Providers and Community Organizations assume total maintenance of buildings and provide a full program of services and cultural events.

Anyone wishing to know more about this effort may call Kate Lambert or Ann Kyle Nolan at 824-2398.

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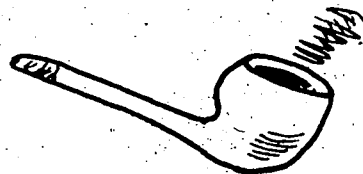
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ANNOUNCEMENTSANNOUNCEMENTS

REHAB

ANTIOCH College West will release the results of their public survey and programs research on Bernal Heights rehabilitation needs and potential programs at a public meeting, Thursday, June 14th, 7:30 P.M. at the Precita Center, near Precita Avenue and Alabama Street.

PRECITA CENTER SUMMER PROGRAMS

RECREATION for children, 8 to 12 years plus teens: gym sports, arts & crafts, field trips, etc. Sign-up at the Center before July.

SUMMER Jobs Program for youths 14 to 21 — applications for this ten week jobs program are being processed.

SPACE is available at the Center for community meetings and projects.

VOLUNTEERS to teach Arts & Crafts to children once a week are needed at the Center. Call Carol or Ricardo at 285-7833.

HOMEMAKER Services will be provided to low-income seniors and heads of households who are temporarily disabled due to illness or injury. This new program is to begin in July. Two homemakers based at the Center will provide free services such as house cleaning, cooking, shopping and errands.

JOB OPENINGS

HOMEMAKERS (2); must be CETA eligible, in good physical condition, and willing to work with the elderly, ill or disabled.

RECREATION DIRECTOR; part time, in good physical condition, experienced in sports instruction — especially basketball, and willing to work with youth.

For more information call Carole Wiley (285-7833) or come to the Center at 534 Precita Ave.

NEW BERNAL PROGRAMS FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

A therapeutic playgroup is starting at the former Well Baby Clinic on Bennington Street. Children and parents will meet once a week to play and share experiences with child therapists. Call Charles Stewart, Shirley Jones or David Mallie for info. In addition, a parents' education and discussion group focusing on child development and more effective parenting techniques is being planned. Call Barbara Madej or Sandy Johannsen for info. Both services are offered by the Southeast Child-Family Therapy Center. Phone is 585-7753 or 558-3036.

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER will be offering free summer programs open to all youth. Basic programs: Arts & Crafts, Animal Room, Ecology and Environment, Recreational Activities, Free Lunch Program, and many Field Trips. Special Registration periods for families: June 4-15, June 15-29, from 1 to 5 P.M. Summer activities run July 2 through August 25, Monday through Saturday. Call 647-6274.

COMMUNITY CORNERS — BERNAL STREET FAIR JUNE 16

By Elyse Eisenberg

Save Saturday June 16 for an all Bernal neighborhood festival to celebrate Community Corners Food Store's fifth year at Coleridge and Powers Streets. The block outside the market between Precita and Fair (behind the 3100 block of Mission Street) will be closed to cars from 11 A.M. till 7 P.M. for this gala block party. Congas and electric bands will play, neighbors will sell a raffle, there will be food and crafts, and celebrities may attend, all to raise money to keep Community Corners alive in this time of inflation. Bring your special creation to sell, and share the proceeds with Bernal Heights' non-profit food store.

BERNAL HEIGHTS GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVES TO NUCLEAR POWER

By Sheila Stone

On May 10 the Bernal Heights Anti-Nuclear Pro-Alternative energy group met for the second time. About 15 people crowded into Caryn Goldman and Dick Hull's living room to trade knowledge, share our perspectives, and start working on something "concrete."

We talked about putting on a community program, setting up an information table, starting a self-education group, having block parties, finding out the evacuation plans for Bernal Heights. We debated sponsoring a debate, and got excited about sponsoring a community windmill.

If any of these projects meet your needs or tickle your fancy, you are welcome to join us. To find out about the group or when the next meeting is, call Jon or Liz at 285-2433.

COALITION RESPONDS TO HOUSING CRISIS

The coalition of organizations forming S.F.A.H. have voted final approval on the contents of a housing initiative. The initiative is a comprehensive plan addressing all aspects of the current housing crisis (high rents, speculation, condominium conversion, etc.) For more information or to assist in the District 9 Signature Drive, call 775-6931. Everyone is also invited to a Benefit DANCE celebrating the kick-off of the initiative on June 8th at the Women's Building (Dovre Hall) at 3543 18th Street. Music provided by Mirosal.

FIRES

The wild grasses are seeding and will soon begin to dry creating the yearly fire hazard. Residents are encouraged to clear these grasses from fences, walls, and around trees and shrubs.

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BHA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Rex Coultas

This will be the last time I'll be writing this column. New officers for the Bernal Heights Association (BHA) will be elected at our next meeting, June 13, 1979, 7:30 P.M. at the Bernal Branch of the Library, 500 Cortland Street.

Those nominated: Pat Helton, President; Charlene Martinez, Vice President; Bob Dutra, Recording Secretary; Joey Schwartzberg, Corresponding Secretary; Jerry Schwartz, Treasurer, and Lill Kruse, Member-At-Large. Special thanks to Lill Kruse who has been serving so faithfully as membership secretary, and who provided us with a delicious batch of her peanut butter cookies for refreshments at the meeting.

If you have any agenda items, please call Rex at 648-5783. Thank you. It's been a good year and I've enjoyed serving!

For real estate service call your neighbors. Real Estate agents, Lyn and Henry Cabrera, 824-3038, 282-8384 (home); 621-8450, 861-1111.

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Question Human

by Joe Lipari

ARE YOU HONEST WITH YOURSELF?????

◆Yes, I am honest with myself. Why do you think I get depressed sometimes? Somewhere along the line you've gotta face up to yourself, what you are, what your limitations are and at my age the things you'll never be that you thought you'd be when you were younger. I've still got traces of romanticism and can you be totally honest with self and a romantic at the same time?!

Bob Casey

◆No, I'm not. I much rather prefer to swindle deceptive fantasies through my head and cultivate a false sense of grandeur of who I am. Honest, I do.

Mike Nolan

◆I'm working on it but I see that I often can deceive myself very well. Husband, co-workers, and friends help me keep on the right track.

Ruth Maginnis

◆Oh yes, of course, that is, almost always, I mean, most of the time, on the other hand, sometimes I just...

Paul S.

◆Sometimes — usually — it's hard to be honest when you have people like Nixon to kick around...

J. Schmitt

◆I am. I should be. After all, if you can't be honest with yourself, who else can you be honest with? One of those Golden-Oldies rules worth following: "TO THINE OWNSELF BE TRUE."

Beth Gardner

◆I'm always honest with others, but with myself this isn't always the case — I am going to think about receiving the process.

James Dean

◆Ultimately

Gregg Meyer

◆I'm never honest with myself.

Anonymous No. 1

◆That's very honest of you.

Anonymous No. 2

◆I am transparent, luminous
Nowhere to hide, I ask myself
Everywhere I go, I follow myself.

Betsy

◆To the point of pain.

King

◆Honesty is a commodity in much shorter supply than housing in San Francisco. If I could find some available honesty to dispense, I would indeed feel free to be honest. However, someone has been speculating in honesty and there is none available at affordable prices.

The Realty Rider

POTATO CAKE RECIPE

(Ed's Note . . . I have three special memories of my grandmother. The wonderful sugar curls she would give my sisters and me, our hair twisted in rags and dipped into sugar water to make ringlets; her magnificent, pink, satin corsette, which would hang grandly from behind one bedroom door when she came to visit; and her Potato Cake. Good enough to make spoiled children behave. Lill Kruse bakes it too . . . Here's her recipe . . . A.K.N.)

I have a nice, nostalgic feeling of home on the ranch when I think of my Potato Cake and I will share my recipe.

Heat oven to 350 degrees F., soften ½ cup butter.

1 cup hot mashed potatoes	2 cups sugar
4 heaping tablespoons	4 eggs, well beaten
½ cup milk	2 cups flour
½ teaspoon baking powder	½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon	½ teaspoon nutmeg
1 scant teaspoon cloves	1 cup or more of walnuts

Add to hot mashed potatoes, the sugar, butter, chocolate, spices and salt. Beat well. Add eggs. Add baking powder to flour. Then add flour and milk alternately. Then add nuts. Bake either in loaf or layers for 40 minutes.

Change of Heart Alternative Treatment Center for Hypertension offering classes. Call for information, 431-6326.

Alternative Health Class: Natural Healing, empiricism and homeopathy. June 23, 10-3. \$5-10 sliding scale. Phone Pat 282-5094, or Diane 647-0694.

Need help with any drug problem? Call SF Drug Treatment Program, an outpatient, Community Based, treatment center. 922-3700.

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